



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

September 17, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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Third District

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RESPONSE TO THE AUGUST 13, 2013, DRUG/MEDI-CAL MOTION

This is in response to your Board's motion on August 13, 2013, regarding the audit and investigation of the Drug/Medi-Cal (DMC) program. The motion required responses from multiple County departments, including our office, as well as Public Health, Auditor-Controller, and County Counsel. Responses from the other Departments will be reported under separate cover.

The motion instructed our office and County Counsel to work with the Departments of Children and Family Services, Public Health, Probation (juvenile and adult) and criminal court leadership (juvenile and adult) to develop and report back in 30 days on a plan that ensures parents of children in dependency cases, and youth and adults on parole and probation, are not referred to suspended providers. Further, the report back should include a determination whether sufficient alcohol and drug providers in good standing currently remain available, will remain available during health reform implementation and, if not, recommend steps to improve access.

To date, the Department of Public Health (DPH) has provided an updated list of active DMC providers multiple times. The list has been provided to the Probation Department and the Department of Children and Family Services, as well as to the County's 211 operation and DPH's contracted community service assessment centers. The updated information is also available on DPH's website, and notices have been posted at closed provider sites with referral information to the website and the Department's call-in number.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Although the suspensions have reduced the County's DMC provider network by approximately one-third, DPH reports that no eligible DMC participant has reported to DPH, or the referring agency, that services were not available nor has any eligible participant been placed on a waiting list.

DPH anticipates that under the upcoming health care reform, new enrollees will not likely immediately seek services, thereby allowing for a gradual ramp up. DPH has taken proactive steps to expand the DMC provider network by reaching out to all of its non-DMC treatment providers to survey those interested in becoming DMC providers. DPH will return to your Board for authority to execute any contract amendments for those providers who successfully certify with the State as new DMC providers.

Finally, we would note that DPH is working directly with the State to review and strengthen the State's DMC certification criteria to ensure only qualified providers are eligible to participate in the DMC program.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Polk at (213) 974-1160 or gpolk@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:GP
MLM:TOF:bjs

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Children and Family Services
Probation
Public Health

091713_HMHS_MBS_DMC Suspended Providers